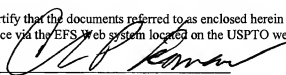


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via the EFS Web system located on the USPTO website on November 8, 2007.

  
Charles P. Romano, Reg. No. 56,991

Application of: Charles M. Rice, et al.	Group Art Unit: 1648
Application No.: 10/534,571	Atty. Docket No.: 56029-54474
Filed: 10/11/2005	Examiner: Zachariah Lucas
For: Highly Permissive Cell Lines For Hepatitis C Virus RNA Replication	Confirmation No. 4463 Customer No. 21888

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Petition To Accept Unintentionally Delayed Claim For Priority (37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3))**

This is a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C.

§120. The period for submitting a reference to the priority claim provided in 37 C.F.R.

§1.78(a)(2) expired on September 11, 2005.

The reference required under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2) for this priority claim is as follows:

"This application is the national stage application of PCT Patent Application No. PCT/US2003/36634, filed November 13, 2003, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/426,256, filed November 13, 2002."

**PATENT**

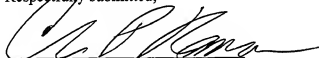
The entire delay in submitting the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 between the date this claim was due under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2) and the date that the claim was filed was unintentional.

The surcharge being submitted for this petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority is \$1,410.00 as per 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(t). The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee of \$1,410.00 to Deposit Account No. 20-0823.

Applicant believes that there are no additional fees due for this submission beyond what has been provided for herein. However, if any additional fees are due upon receipt of this submission, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0823.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and acceptance of this Petition. If a telephone interview would facilitate this matter, the Director is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Dated: November 8, 2007**